

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

MICHAEL CASTRELLON,  
Plaintiff,  
v.  
JEFF LYNCH, et al.,  
Defendants.

No. 2:24-cv-1622 SCR P

ORDER SETTING SETTLEMENT  
CONFERENCE

Plaintiff is incarcerated in state prison and proceeding pro se and in forma pauperis with a civil rights action under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. The undersigned has determined that this case will benefit from a settlement conference. Therefore, this case will be referred to Magistrate Judge Jeremy D. Peterson to conduct a settlement conference on March 26, 2026, at 1:30 p.m., via Zoom videoconference. The undersigned will issue writ of habeas corpus ad testificandum in due course.

The undersigned expects that the parties will proceed with the settlement conference in good faith and attempt to resolve all or part of the case. If any party believes that the settlement conference will not be productive, that party shall so inform the court as far in advance of the settlement conference as possible.

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2 In accordance with the above, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

3 1. The case is set for a settlement conference before Magistrate Judge Jeremy D.  
4 Peterson on March 26, 2026, at 1:30 p.m. The settlement conference will be conducted by remote  
5 means, with all parties appearing by Zoom video conference.

6 2. Unless otherwise permitted in advance by the court, the following individuals must  
7 attend the settlement conference: (1) all of the attorney(s) who will try the case; and (2)  
8 individuals with full authority to negotiate and settle the case, on any terms.

9 3. No later than one week prior to the settlement conference, each party must submit  
10 to Judge Peterson's chambers at [jdporders@caed.uscourts.gov](mailto:jdporders@caed.uscourts.gov), or by mail at U.S. District Court,  
11 501 I Street, Suite 4-200, Sacramento, CA 95814, a confidential settlement conference statement.  
12 These statements should neither be filed on the docket nor served on any other party. The  
13 statements should be marked "CONFIDENTIAL" and should state the date and time of the  
14 conference. The statements should not be lengthy but should include:

- 15 a. A brief recitation of the facts;
- 16 b. A discussion of the strengths and weaknesses of the case;
- 17 c. An itemized estimate of the expected costs for further discovery, pretrial, and  
18 trial matters, in specific dollar terms;
- 19 d. Your best estimate of the probability that plaintiff will obtain a finding of  
20 liability should this case proceed to trial, in percentage terms;
- 21 e. Should this case proceed to trial and defendant be found liable, please provide  
22 the following, in specific dollar terms:
- 23 i. A realistic high-end recovery estimate (i.e., realistic best- or worst-case  
24 scenario);
- 25 ii. A realistic low-end recovery estimate (i.e., realistic worst- or best-case  
26 scenario); and
- 27 iii. A best estimate of the most likely outcome;
- 28 f. A history of settlement discussions, including:

- i. A statement of your expectations for settlement discussions;
- ii. A listing of any past and present settlement offers from any party (including all terms); and
- iii. Whether your party would consider making the opening offer or demand, and what that offer might be<sup>1</sup>;
- g. A list of the individuals who will be participating in the settlement conference on your party's behalf, including each participant's name and, if appropriate, title;
- h. Plaintiff's anticipated release date;
- i. An estimate of restitution and fees, including court fees and filing fees, owed by plaintiff; and
- j. Identification of any related cases or of any other cases that the parties might wish to discuss at this settlement conference.

4. The STAY in this case is extended through the date of the settlement conference.

5. Judge Peterson or another representative from the court will be contacting the parties either by telephone or in person, approximately two weeks prior to the settlement conference, to ascertain each party's expectations of the settlement conference.

6. The Clerk of the Court is directed to serve a copy of this order on the Litigation Office at the California Medical Facility via facsimile at (707) 469-6006 or via email.

DATED: January 6, 2026

  
SEAN C. RIORDAN  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

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<sup>1</sup> Please note that Judge Peterson will consider this response, among others, in evaluating whether proceeding with a settlement conference appears worthwhile.